



October 20, 2016

JIDO

Catapult, Horizon and Voltron: Experts reveal the secretive war apps being used to defeat ISIS in Mosul

Daily Mail, Oct. 19

This article is an adaption from a "Defense One" article that ran previously on some of JIDO's counter-IED equipment that helps detect hidden IEDs and that provides data analysis and visualization along with plot explosion size.

GLOBAL VIEW

Two Americans Killed by Afghan Service Member in Attack Near Kabul

Wall Street Journal, Oct. 19

An Afghan soldier killed a U.S. military service member and an American civilian in an attack near a coalition base close to Kabul on Wednesday in which the assailant was also killed. U.S. and Afghan officials said other individuals were wounded in the incident, which took place in or near Camp Morehead, the headquarters of the country's elite commando units and where the school of excellence is based.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Adm. Rogers: US 'Working Our Way Through' NSA-Cyber Command Split

Defense News Online, Oct. 18

The dual-hatted chief of US Cyber Command and the National Security Agency, said splitting the two agencies is a matter of "the right time" and "the right process."

MOSUL

Abandoned villages on road to Mosul rigged with tunnels and bombs

Reuters, Oct. 19

A deep tunnel, booby-trapped with an IED, burrows under houses at the entrance to a village near Mosul. Nearby, an anti-personnel mine lies half buried in a dirt road. Residents began returning on Wednesday to the village of Sheikh Amir on the road to Mosul and found a village rigged with explosives and dug in with elaborate underground defenses, abandoned by ISIL.

In Iraq, Death Comes For A Technician Defusing Bombs By Hand

Huffington Post, Oct. 19

As Iraqi and Kurdish forces advance on Mosul, the task of clearing surrounding villages littered with IEDs is a difficult one. America's allies don't have proper demining equipment or protective gear and it's costing them their lives.

What does an adviser do? Mosul operation highlights elasticity of military support operations.

Washington Post, Oct. 19

Unlike some past operations, U.S. advisers in Mosul, who now number a couple hundred, are expected to remain in a secondary role. That's partly because of Iraqi wishes but also a strong U.S. desire to avoid casualties. It may also reflect confidence that Iraqi troops, with the help of U.S. advisers and air power, can get the job done.

A look at US role against IS as Mosul offensive takes off

McClatchy DC, Oct. 19

Since 2014, the U.S. has provided airstrikes and advise-and-assist operations to put the Iraqi military back on its feet after the Islamic State group gutted it of weapons, supplies and soldiers during its blitzkrieg across Iraq and Syria.

After losses in Syria and Iraq, Islamic State moves the goal posts

New York Times, Oct. 19

Islamic State leaders had long promised their followers an apocalyptic battle --- in an otherwise nondescript village they controlled in northern Syria. But the warriors of the self-declared caliphate lost the village, Dabiq, in just a few hours over the weekend as Syrian rebels, backed by Turkey, closed in.

Islamic State traps Mosul civilians as human shields, Pentagon says

Newsweek, Oct. 19

Islamic State jihadists are trapping Mosul's civilians to use as human shields, the Pentagon said as President Barack Obama warned of "significant" potential displacement as the offensive for the Iraqi city progresses.

Evidence of a 'difficult fight' ahead as forces move toward ISIS-held Mosul

Washington Post, Oct. 19

The struggle for Mosul - which involves U.S. air power and an array of Iraqi ground forces - is the largest and most complex operation so far in the battle against Islamic State militants, who have been digging in for a fight. Residents who have recently fled the area and Iraqi officials with contacts inside the city say the Islamic State has been erecting concrete barricades and filling trenches with oil that can be set on fire to slow advancing forces.

Tensions Flare Up Among Allies in Mosul

Wall Street Journal, Oct. 19

Tensions emerged on Tuesday among allied forces fighting to retake the northern Iraqi city of Mosul from Islamic State, a day after the offensive was launched.

U.S. expects Islamic State to wield chemical weapons in Mosul fight

Reuters, Oct. 19

The United States expects Islamic State to use crude chemical weapons as it tries to repel an Iraqi-led offensive on the city of Mosul, U.S. officials say, although adding that the group's technical ability to develop such weapons is highly limited.

COUNTER IED FACILITY

BL Harbert begins work on \$27.5 million FBI expansion project at Redstone

AL.com, Oct. 19

The expansion includes two major components: a 43,000-square-foot Deployment Building to handle training vehicle storage, classroom, and office space, and six Training Village Structures that officials will use for practical training exercises.